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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/583,862	06/21/2006	Shuntaro Machida	ASAM.0205	4122
38327	7590	06/11/2009	EXAMINER	
REED SMITH LLP			WILSON, ALLAN R	
3110 FAIRVIEW PARK DRIVE, SUITE 1400			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22042			2815	
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/583,862	Applicant(s) MACHIDA ET AL.
	Examiner ALLAN R. WILSON	Art Unit 2815

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED. (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 January 2009.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-4 and 8-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-4 and 8-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-166/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless —

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4 and 8-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by WO 01/46664 A2 to Aigner et al. (of record, hereinafter “Aigner”). Aigner illustrates in at least figures 8A-10B with the associated text:

Regarding claim 1, Aigner illustrates in FIGs. 8A, 8B, 10A and 10B a device having:

a first wafer 1 having a first area and a second area opposed to each other with a first scribe area 20 in-between, wherein a first mechanical element 17 and a first pad 9 are formed in said first area and a second mechanical element (unnumbered - same as 17 on right) and a second pad (unnumbered - same as 9, just to right of 9) are formed in said second area, and

a second wafer 2 which seals said first mechanical element and said second mechanical element with a prescribed space 18 over each of said first mechanical element and said second mechanical element formed in said first wafer, wherein:

 said second wafer is provided with a through-hole (5 and 19) having a first side and a second side opposed to said first side, for exposing said first pad and said second pad, and

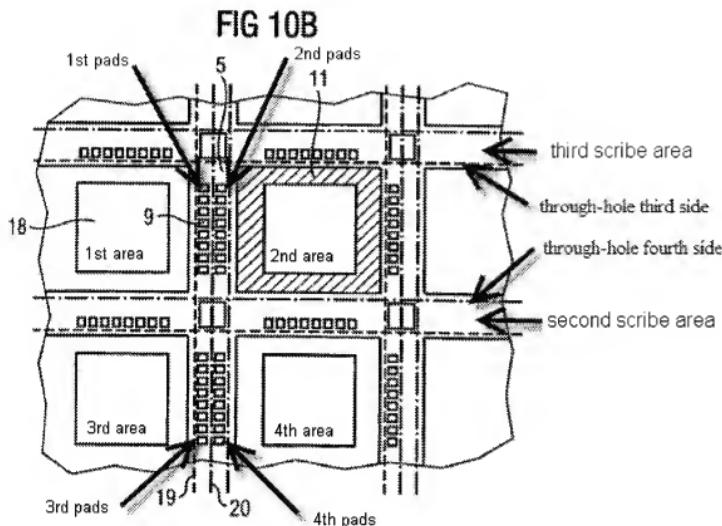
said through-hole is so positioned that said first pad is placed between said first side and said first scribe area and said second pad is placed between said second side and said first scribe area.

Regarding claim 2, Aigner illustrates in FIGs. 10A and 10B (see annotated FIG. 10B below) said first wafer has a second scribe area

 said through-hole (5 and 19) has a third side crossing said first side and said second side and a fourth side opposed to said third side,

 the fourth side of said through-hole is placed between said second scribe area, said first pad and said second pad, and

 the third side of said through-hole is arranged to be placed between said third scribe area, said first pad and said second pad.



Regarding claim 3, Aigner illustrates in FIGs. 10A and 10B (see annotated FIG. 10B above) said first wafer 1 has:

a second scribe area,
a third area opposed to said first area with said second scribe area in-between, and
a fourth area opposed to said second area with said second scribe area in- between and
opposed to said third area with said first scribe area in-between, wherein:
a third mechanical element and a third pad are formed in said third area,
a fourth mechanical element and a fourth pad are formed in said fourth area,

said through-hole (5 and 19) is so arranged as to expose said third pad and said fourth pad, and

said through-hole is so arranged as to place said third pad between said first side and said first scribe area and to place said fourth pad between said second side and said first scribe area.

Regarding claim 4, Aigner illustrates in FIGs. 10A and 10B (see annotated FIG. 10B above) said through-hole (5 and 19) has a third side crossing said first side and said second side and a fourth side opposed to said third side,

said through-hole is so arranged as to place said first and second pads between said third side and said second scribe area and to place said third and fourth pad between said fourth side and said second scribe area.

Regarding claims 8 and 10, Aigner illustrates in FIGs. 10A and 10B (see annotated FIG. 10B above) said first wafer further has second through fifth scribe areas,

said first area is surrounded by said first (20), second, third and fourth (not shown - scribe area on opposed side of first scribe area 20) scribe areas, and

said second area is surrounded by said first, second, third and fifth (vertical scribe areas on right). Further regarding claim 10, said third area is surrounded by said first, second, fourth and sixth (not shown - scribe area on opposed side of second scribe area below areas 3 and 4) scribe areas, and said fourth area is surrounded by said first, second, fifth and sixth scribe areas.

Regarding claims 9 and 11, the machine translation of Aigner, page 7, discloses making chips 11 by cutting the scribe areas 20.

Applicant's arguments filed 1/30/2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The argument that "*Aigner merely shows a cavity 5 between a base body 1 and a covering body 2. (See Figs. 8A and 10A.) The covering body 2 is not provided with any through-hole for exposing the electrical contact 9 and the electrical contact disposed at right of the electrical contact 9*" is not persuasive. Aigner illustrates in Figs 8A through 10B cut 19 partially saws through the structure to make a "through-hole" in the second wafer 2. (Also see abstract) It is clear that once the material is remove from cut 19 there will be a "through-hole" in wafer 2.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from an examiner should be directed to Primary Examiner Allan Wilson whose telephone number is 571-272-1738. Examiner Wilson can normally be reached 7:00-3:30 Monday-Friday (off first Friday).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ken Parker can be reached on 571-272-2298. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Allan R. Wilson/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2815